



Park & Recreation Commission

Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities
1108 Jefferson Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

April 12, 2021

Honorable Mayor and members of City Council

Re: This letter summarizes the Park and Recreation Commission's support for the open space provided by the Eisenhower East SAP Block 32 Carlyle Plaza II / Carlyle Park Towers Open Space Design

On March 18, 2021 the Park and Recreation Commission unanimously endorsed the design of the Carlyle Plaza II / Carlyle Park Towers open space. The open space deck atop the parking structure will connect the Block 32 development with the existing athletic field on the Alexandria Renew site and provide a transition down to ground level to the North Circle Park and South Circle Park, newly created park space resulting from the removal of the Eisenhower traffic circle. This development will add close to five acres of integrated open space, an enormous asset to the City of Alexandria and the City's open space goals.

The Carlyle Plaza II / Carlyle Park Towers open space is an innovative example for designing quality publicly accessible open space in a challenging environment. Primarily built atop a four-story parking garage, the open space will include an assemblage of overlooks, landscaping, open lawns, moveable and permanent seating, paths, playspace, and interactive fountain. These amenities can be accessed by stairs or from one of the three elevators located around the site. Each of these amenities were created for users of all ages and abilities. The open space was also designed to allow for flexible uses such as pickup games, community gatherings, or teleworking. The open space provided in this development project will serve as a great benefit to the City.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gina Baum", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Gina Baum, Chair
Alexandria Park & Recreation Commission

cc: Alexandria Park & Recreation Commission
Mark Jinks, City Manager
Debra Collins, Deputy City Manager
James Spengler, Director, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities
Jack Browand, Acting Deputy Director, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities
Judy Lo, Acting Principle Planner, Park Planning
Ana Vicinanza, Urban Planner II, Park Planning